

Put your numismatic savvy to the test

By Roger Boye

SOME COIN COLLECTORS' numismatic know-how gets little use in summer. If you can't score at least eight correct on the following quiz, it's time to review your basics.

1. What is a major difference in the design of Lincoln on the cent, compared with the designs of Jefferson on the nickel, Roosevelt on the dime, Washington on the quarter, Kennedy on the half-dollar, and Eisenhower on the dollar? (No fair peeking at the coins in your pocket.)

2. Of all the individuals whose images have appeared on regular-issue United States coins, who is the one person who was never President?

3. How many times does the image of Lincoln appear on a one-cent coin?

4. Speaking of Lincoln, on which currency de-

nomination does he appear?

5. A proof coin is one which: (a) has been coated with silver; (b) has been cleaned; (c) has been produced with carefully selected dies; or (d) has at least two grains of gold.

6. The back side of the Jefferson nickel shows: (a) the White House; (b) the Jefferson Memorial; (c) Monticello; (d) the Torch of Freedom; or (e) a tree.

7. Which of the following designs has been in existence the longest? (a) Lincoln on the cent; (b) Jefferson on the nickel; or (c) Washington on the quarter.

8. What is the smallest denomination coin ever issued by the U. S. government?

9. The best way to clean a silver coin is to use a soft cloth and baking soda. True or false?

10. What is the major difference between a

medal and a coin?

Answers:

1. Lincoln faces the right; the others face left.
2. Benjamin Franklin (on the half-dollar minted from 1948 to 1963).

3. Twice, once on each side. the Statue of Lincoln is located in the middle of the Lincoln Memorial on the reverse side of the coin.

4. The \$5 bill.

5. c.

6. c.

7. a (since 1909; the coin was first issued to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth).

8. The half-cent, minted from 1793 to 1857.

9. False. The best advice is don't clean coins.

10. A coin is "legal tender," issued by a government to be used as money. A medal is not money.